

In the Specification:

Please amend paragraph [0001] as illustrated herein below.

[0001] This application is a continuation of U.S. Serial No. 09/469,200, filed December 21, 1999, entitled "HYALURONATE SYNTHASE GENE AND USES THEREOF", which is a ~~continuation-in-part~~ **continuation** of U.S. Serial No. ~~08/899,040, filed July 23, 1997~~ **09/178,851, filed October 26, 1998,** entitled "HYALURONATE SYNTHASE GENE AND USES THEREOF", now abandoned, ~~and~~ which ~~also~~ claims the benefit of U.S. Provisional Application U.S. Serial No. 60/064,435, filed October 31, 1997, entitled "GROUP C HYALURONAN SYNTHASE GENE AND USES THEREOF".